

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner withdrew Claim 13 as being directed to a non-elected invention, and rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter, and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as not complying with the enablement requirement.

Applicant's undersigned attorney wishes to acknowledge telephone conferences with Examiner Ly on February 23 and March 30, 2006, during which proposed amendments to Claim 14 were discussed.

This Amendment is being submitted pursuant to those telephone conferences. Claim 14 is being amended to add "DNA or RNA sequence" in the preamble, immediately before "target array," and the step of "displaying the generated first and second arrays on a computer screen" is being added at the end of the claim.

RNA, as one type of gene sequence that may be used in the operation of the present invention, is discussed, among other places, on page 1, line 27; page 4, line 4; page 19, line 19; and page 40, line 25. The use of a computer, according to one embodiment of the invention, having an LCD is described on page 15, lines 19-25.

With the amendment requested herein, the "array" recited in Claim 14 refers to a DNA or RNA array, and the "complement" recited in the claim now refers to the complement of a base element of a DNA or RNA array. These terms are well known and understood in the art, and those of ordinary skill in the art would be readily able to determine and to identify a DNA or RNA target array, and the complement of a base element of a DNA or RNA array. Accordingly Claim 14 also now clearly is enabled by the specification, and satisfies the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112.

In addition, the step of displaying the generated first and second arrays on a computer screen is a tangible, practical feature, and with the addition of this step, Claim 14 clearly defines statutory subject matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 101.

This Amendment does not raise any new issues or require any further searching and, moreover, places the application in condition for allowance. It is thus believed that entry of this Amendment is appropriate and such entry is respectfully requested.

For the reasons explained above, the Examiner is asked to enter this Amendment, to reconsider and to withdraw the rejections of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 112, and to allow Claim 14.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a continuation application to continue the prosecution of claims directed to the subject matter of previous Claim 14, and to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the claims that have been withdrawn from this application because of the restriction requirement.

Every effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance, a notice of which is requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' Attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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